

## **MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

## Chairwoman Marcelia Nicholson - District 10

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## Securing Our Future: Board Seizes Generational Opportunity to Sustain Essential Services in Tune with Community Values

MILWAUKEE – Today, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors voted to adopt a <u>resolution</u>, [15-3] authored by Chairwoman Marcelia Nicholson, to enact an additional 0.4% county sales and use tax, effective January 1, 2024. Chairwoman Nicholson emphasized the importance of today's action, stating:

"This historic vote represents a collaborative effort that will benefit the people of Milwaukee County for generations to come. We had one shot to save the services our constituents rely on, and we got it done, securing a brighter future for our community."

"I am immensely proud of the resilience and determination demonstrated by my colleagues on the Board tasked with making this decision. Thank you to Supervisors Steven Shea, Willie Johnson Jr., Anthony Staskunas, Deanna Alexander, Sheldon A. Wasserman, Patti Logsdon, Felesia A. Martin, Shawn Rolland, Liz Sumner, Priscilla E. Coggs-Jones, Peter Burgelis, Juan Miguel Martinez, Kathleen Vincent, and Caroline Gómez-Tom. This pivotal choice paves the way for a more promising tomorrow for Milwaukee County."

"I also want to express my heartfelt appreciation to Governor Tony Evers for his unwavering commitment to our residents throughout this journey. Together, in collaboration with several local and state stakeholders, we have altered Milwaukee County's trajectory away from the edge of a disastrous fiscal cliff. This historic achievement stands as a testament to the unwavering power of collaboration, and the inclusion of diverse perspectives. Through years of dedicated efforts, numerous town halls, and persistent advocacy, we have secured a brighter and more resilient path forward for Milwaukee County."

Today's action is <u>projected</u> to generate over \$82.1 million in annual revenue, fortifying Milwaukee County's sustainability and enabling the allocation of crucial resources to fund essential programs and services for Milwaukee residents. Estimates show that non-residents will provide nearly 30% of the revenue generated by a new sales tax.

The approved legislation was made possible by the enactment of <u>2023 Wisconsin Act 12</u>, which was adopted by the Wisconsin State Legislature and signed into law by the Governor. It provided

increased state funding for local governments and authorized Milwaukee County to enact local sales taxes. The tax will sunset when Milwaukee County has paid off its unfunded pension liabilities, exemplifying the County's commitment to fiscal sustainability.

The resolution now heads to the desk of County Executive Crowley, who has indicated that he will sign the legislation following its adoption by the full Board.

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